

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims

Applicant has made amendments to claims 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 16, and 18 to clarify that the display operable to show the selectable resolution values is distinct from the display operable to preview image data. The changes are reflected in the full listing of the claims attached hereto. Claims 1–18 remain pending.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

In the May 7, 2007 Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1–18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious over Anderson (U.S. Patent No. 6,847,388) in view of Makishima et. al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,549,307). However, applicants respectfully traverse this rejection as the combination of Anderson and Makishima does not disclose or render obvious the presently claimed invention.

a. Claims 1 and 10

Independent claims 1 and 10 of the presently claimed invention entail a digital camera and method for storing *unprocessed* bitmap data in a raw image file that also contains a first compressed image having a first resolution, and a second compressed image having a second selectable resolution. The Examiner has suggested that these features are disclosed in Anderson. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection because Anderson fails to disclose or suggest a digital camera and method for storing full-resolution, unprocessed bitmapped image data from the camera's image sensor together with two smaller processed image files suitable for viewing or printing including a selectable resolution, as in the present invention.

The presently claimed invention addresses the need for allowing a user to quickly view or print from RAW images files without the need to convert the full resolution,

uncompressed RAW image files into other file formats by embedding two processed images, including one with a selectable resolution, together with the unprocessed bitmap data into a RAW image file. In short, the techniques of the presently claimed invention entail converting unprocessed bitmap data into a first compressed image having a first resolution value, and a second compressed image having a user-selectable resolution value. Both compressed images are then embedded together with the raw image data into a file. Consequently, the user can quickly view or print images stored in the RAW file.

While Anderson does disclose that a RAM may be used for storing “raw and compressed image data” (Col 5 Lines 49–51), only processed image data is stored, not the unprocessed, full resolution bitmap image, as in the present invention. As disclosed in Anderson, when the user presses the shutter button to capture an image, raw image data is converted via processing to “a resolution set by the user” (Col 9 Lines 9–12). The image file described in Anderson entails the “compressed” image data, together with an uncompressed “low resolution” thumbnail, and an optionally compressed low resolution screen nail (Col 9 Lines 13–16). The thumbnail and screennail images are generated from “previously processed YCC data” and stored at “reduced resolution” rather than from raw image data (Col 9 Lines 17–27).

Nothing in Anderson or Makishima discloses or suggests the novel combination of a raw image file having uncompressed full resolution bitmapped data together with two lower resolution images at least one of which having a user-selectable resolution for ease of viewing or printing. Therefore, independent claims 1 and 10 distinguish over the cited references. Reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of claims 1 and 10 is therefore respectfully requested.

b. Claims 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 16, and 18

The Examiner has rejected dependent claims 2-9 and 16-18 over Anderson in combination with Makashima. These rejections are respectfully traversed in light of the accompanying amendment, because neither reference discloses or suggests the features of amended claims 2 or 16. In particular, the cited art does not disclose digital camera techniques that include a display operable to show selectable resolution values which is distinct from the display operable to preview image data.


Instead, Makishima discloses a digital camera with a display operable to show the selectable resolution values on the same “monitor unit” operable to preview image data (Fig. 3, Col. 5 Lines 20–25).

Therefore, nothing in Anderson or Makishima discloses or suggests the novel combination of amended claims 2 or 16. Similarly, dependent claims 3-9, and 17-18, which depend therefrom, are allowable for the same reasons.

In light of these arguments and amendments, reconsideration of the rejections, and prompt allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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